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II

GOLD OF TOULOUSE

BY JOSEPH S. AUERBACH

FEVERED desire to pyrrhic quests is borne
    Through circling dust; unprivileged to see,
    How rhadamantine fate, by fell decree,
Ordains that deed, aflower with but thorn
And perished leaf—bereft the fair adorn
    From temperate mind and reverent knee—
    Shall testify the soul's apostasy,
And be of things by rectitude forsworn.

Profane adventure with insensate throng,
    Adverse to the Remnant, would old shrines pass
    With greedy feet; and, loathful to peruse
Dissuading truth, may sacrilegious wrong
Condone and vaunt, and, for reward, amass
    Ill's treasures in the cursed Gold of Toulouse.

JOSEPH S. AUERBACH.